Strike by Chemists

2550. SHRI GANDHI AZAD:
SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the strikes by the chemists who supply the local purchase allopathic medicines to the CGHS dispensaries in Delhi during the last one year as a result of which the beneficiaries had to face great difficulties;

(b) the reasons for their strike;

(c) whether since 1st November, 2002 the chemists have again gone on strike;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the strike;

(e) whether Government have taken any action to end the strike in the interest of the beneficiaries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) to (d) The information is given below:—

(1) During 2001:— Nil

(2) During 2002:—

(i) 21.1.2002 to 25.1.2002 — Due to delayed payment of their bills.

(ii) 1.4.2002 to 12.4.2002 — Due to delayed payment of their bills and withholding of 10% of their bills on accounts of Sales Tax.

(iii) 1.11.2002 to till date — Due to withholding of 10% amount from their bills on account of Sales Tax and delayed payment of their pending bills by the CGHS. The issue is under reference to the C&AG.

(e) and (f) An additional amount of Rs. 8.00 crore was allocated on 5.11.2002 and the bills of the authorised local chemists of CGHS, Delhi which were received in the CGHS(HQ) up to 30.9.2002 have been cleared for payment.

At present, the availability of medicines in CGHS dispensaries is not adequate. Due to the ongoing strike of the authorised local chemists of CGHS Delhi, the beneficiaries have been allowed to purchase the medicines from open market and get reimbursement of the expenses incurred on this account from the Govt. Arrangements have also been made for making reimbursement to CGHS pensioner beneficiaries in the concerned CGHS dispensary itself.

In the present context, steps have been taken to procure generic as well as proprietary medicines through the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Limited. The supplies have already started arriving in CGHS Delhi.

Improvement in the management of AIIMS

2551. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to improve the management of AIIMS; and

(b) the steps to be taken to provide a modern and hygienic mortuary in the AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) and (b) The AIIMS has its own in house survey and inspection system to maintain the performance and efficiency of the various areas of the Hospital. There are regular visits by the Medical Superintendent and the Director to ensure this. The Resident Administrator oversees the day to day functioning of the hospital services. For augmentation of dead body storage capacity of mortuary at AIIMS, two more cold mortuary cabinets (of four body each capacity) are being acquired. Action has been initiated for renovation of the existing cold room. Establishment of centre for Forensic Medicine and Toxicology and modern mortuary have been included in the new Master Plan.